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HOSPITAL LIFE AT SALONICA.


# The Common Cause

## OF HUMANITY.

**The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.**

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*[The National Union does not hold itself responsible for opinions expressed in signed articles.]*

# Notes and News.

### Women's Suffrage and Parliament.

The meeting of Parliament this week finds the situation with regard to questions of franchise and registration apparently unchanged. So far, the Government appears to show no desire to formulate any proposals on these subjects, and the tone of the Press and of political circles is more and more antagonistic to any suggestion based upon the desire for an immediate General Election.

The Unionist War Committee, however, of which Sir Edward Carson is chairman, still continues to press for votes for soldiers and sailors on the basis of their service, and the demand secures considerable support on obvious grounds. In connection with this, however, there are two things to remember: first, that this proposal involves innumerable and almost insuperable practical difficulties, which causes it to be opposed by those officially connected with carrying out registration changes; secondly, that this or any proposal to alter the *basis* upon which registration is allowed inevitably raises all the other still unsettled franchise questions. Women's Suffrage is undoubtedly the most urgent and the most important of them; and it is the business of Suffragists to make this as widely recognised as possible. Clearly, any alteration in the basis of the franchise, based upon military qualifications, would inflict a grave injustice upon women, who, in their way, have worked bravely and faithfully for their country; and clearly, too, any such change, if it was unaccompanied by a corresponding extension to women, would in the future place new and greater difficulties in the path of any Women's Suffrage Bill.

Any purely registration change, such as a shortening of the residential qualification, even if for one election only, would equally introduce new difficulties in the path of Women's Suffrage in the future, and it is therefore certain that any such change made now would inflict upon women a new injustice. The hope of Suffragists, therefore, lies in—

(*a*) An agreed Bill introduced now including Women's Suffrage.

(*b*) A postponement of any settlement of the difficulty until there is time and public attention for a thorough discussion of domestic affairs.

If neither of these things takes place Suffragists will be obliged to press for Women's Suffrage amendments to any proposals that come forward, and it is important that this should be very widely understood.

### The Status of Women Police.

The Police, &c. (Miscellaneous Provisions), Bill which Mr. Herbert Samuel is introducing, provides for the addition of many new powers to those already possessed by the Home Office, among them powers for the further protection of women in industry. In recent years, states the Memorandum attached to the Bill, "welfare" arrangements have been introduced by many employers and extended since the outbreak of the war owing to the increase in the employment of women and girls in work hitherto done by men. Special care is taken to ensure health and well-being, to maintain discipline and order, especially where women work with men; and to prevent individuals suffering undue fatigue or strain. Powers already exist to require such provision to be made in munition works under the supervision of a Department of the Ministry. As there is no such power to deal directly with other industries, Mr. Herbert Samuel proposes to empower the Home Secretary "to require reasonable and practicable welfare provisions by order, which can be adjusted to the circumstances of a given industry or process, works, or class of works."

Clause 4 of the Bill proposes that the women who are now, in certain towns, undertaking some of the work usually performed by the police should be treated as constables for the purposes of determining the amount to be paid to the police authority out of the Exchequer Contribution Account. It is to be hoped that when this clause is threshed out in Parliament it will be made quite clear that the women police are not only to be paid but are to be actually sworn in as constables.

### A False Economy.

While fresh powers are being asked for by the Home Office to ensure adequate provision for the welfare of workers, the number of factory inspectors has been reduced and the Committee on Retrenchment is now recommending that the inquiries and reports of certifying surgeons on accidents accruing in factories and workshops should be dispensed with. This is a form of "economy" that is fraught with considerable danger. In the present conditions of labour accidents are more numerous than before, and the number of dangerous trades has increased owing to the war; so that additional rather than diminished safeguards are required. Protests against this recommendation have been made to the Home Secretary by deputations from medical associations and trade unions, and the National Union of Teachers and National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children are also interesting themselves in the matter, owing to the large number of children of thirteen and fourteen years of age who are now being employed to replace men.

### Responsibilities of Trade Unions.

At the annual conference of the National Union of Railwaymen, held on Monday at Bath, Mr. Albert Bellamy expressed his gratification that the women workers on railways were joining the ranks of the union in large numbers. This, he pointed out, increased the responsibilities of the union twofold; but they must not shirk. They must see that the standard hitherto fixed should not be lowered, but, if possible, raised.

Mr. Thomas insisted on the importance of demanding that wherever women were doing the work of men they should be paid at the same rates. The problems of the moment, he declared, were as nothing compared with the problems which they would have to face when war was over. Was there any sensible man who believed that if the war ended to-morrow the women were going to be driven out of industry? If any did believe so they were living in a fool's paradise. Viewed from the moral standpoint, would any man contemplate with any degree of satisfaction an intention of throwing out of the industrial arena one and three-quarter millions of women? He protested against any such idea. They had no right to set up a sex war, but they had a right to say that no employer should be allowed in future to take advantage of women's labour as a means of reducing the value of men's labour.

### Working Women in Conference.

The Women's Co-operative Guild is holding its annual congress in the Central Buildings, Westminster, on June 26th and the two following days. Some 800 delegates from 400 branches are expected to attend. Among the questions to be discussed are the national care of maternity, national control of the food supply, naval and military pensions, and the replacement of men by women in industry.

### The State Registration of Nurses.

A conference was held last week at St. Thomas's Hospital to consider a first draft Bill for the State registration of nurses and the formation of the first register of nurses to be organised at the proposed College of Nursing. Various points in the draft Bill were discussed, and it is hoped that the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses and the Council of the Nursing College may be able to arrive at an agreed Bill.

### Seats for Omnibus Conductors.

The London General Omnibus Company have obtained the permission of the Commissioner of Police to fit seats for their conductors on the back platform of the motor-omnibus. It may fairly be claimed that this reform has been brought about by the agitation initiated by various women's organisations, including the Women's Interests Committee of the National Union. Though introduced for the benefit of women-conductors, it will add to the comfort of the men just as much, and is an instance of the way in which improved conditions of labour often follow the introduction of women into a fresh sphere.

### The "Common Cause" Scholarships for Commercial Chemistry.

Three scholarships, of the approximate value of £50 each, are offered by The Common Cause to women who wish to qualify themselves to take positions as industrial chemists.

Applicants, who should have a Science Degree, or its equivalent, should send in their names, with full particulars of degree or diploma taken, and of the course of research study which they wish to pursue, to the Scholarship Secretary, The Common Cause, 14, Great Smith Street, London, S.W., not later than the morning of July 10th, 1916.

## Hospital Life at Salonica.

Our readers will remember that the Girton and Newnham Unit of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals, after working for five months at Troyes under the French military authorities, was, in October, 1915, attached to the Armée d'Orient—a French expeditionary force then proceeding to the relief of Serbia—and received orders to transport their tent hospital to Salonica, via Marseilles. The news was received with enthusiasm by the Unit, as the fact that a voluntary Unit manned by women should be sent out with an expeditionary force showed great confidence in the high reputation already gained by the Hospital at Troyes.

An account of the departure of this Unit, under Dr. Louise McIlroy as Chief Medical Officer and Mrs. Harley as Administrator, has already been given, and some of the experiences of the past six months are now told by Mrs. Harley :—

"Arriving in Salonica on November 2nd, we received orders to proceed at once to Serbia and establish our Hospital at a place called Guevgueli, which was eventually to be made into a big base for the French hospitals, but where, at the time, there were only about two or three hundred beds ready, and therefore we were much needed. Within a week's time we found ourselves, in the very early hours of the morning, at Guevgueli Station, together with fourteen truck loads of equipment. It was a strange and weird experience to arrive in a place so utterly unorganised as Guevgueli was in those early days, not knowing where we were to find the next meal or to sleep at night. However, our spirits rose to the occasion, and we felt we were pioneers. After managing to get some breakfast at a very indifferent little coffee-house, as soon as the official world was awake Dr. McIlroy and I reported ourselves to the military authorities. The Principal Medical Officer received us most kindly, and then and there took us round the place to find a suitable site for our Hospital. After much wandering we finally decided upon some enclosed ground surrounding a silk-worm factory belonging to a Serb who was fighting, and this was handed over to us by the Serbian Commandant. The factory was a curious building. It had no windows at all, but only shutters, which had to be either wide open, letting in the wintry blast, or fast shut, so that the place was dark and the atmosphere became unpleasantly saturated with the smell of silk-worm cocoons, sacks of which were piled on wire-netting frames over furnaces. Between the rows of frames some of our staff had to sleep, but they had no benefit from the furnaces underneath, as these were not lighted. The top-floor was boarded over, and there some thirty of the staff were accommodated. The enclosed ground round the factory was destined for our Hospital tents.

"No time was lost in getting up our equipment from the station. It was a real tragedy to discover that the tent-poles had been stolen, and but for the kindness of the French Engineers, who made us fresh poles, the delay in pitching the tents would have been great. As it was, within a fortnight we were settled down and receiving the wounded—amongst them some terribly bad cases of head wounds, and many cases of frost-bite. All the cooking had to be done on open trench fires, and a word of most grateful thanks must be given to our cooks, who, in spite of rain and bitter cold, managed to supply both our patients and staff with warm nourishing food.

"The gales in Serbia are very terrible, and we often had sleepless nights, wondering how the tents would withstand the tempest, but the patients themselves had no such fears, and were extraordinarily comfortable and warm in the coldest weather. On one occasion, when the snow was on the ground and a bitter wind blowing, an inspection took place, the Director of the Service de Santé coming round to visit us quite unexpectedly. He was simply astounded to find how warm the tents were, exclaiming : 'How is it possible to keep the place so warm in this dreadful weather?' We ourselves did not fare so well, and suffered a great deal from the cold, our only dining-room being the verandah of the factory, where we ate our meals in the biting wind; but, in spite of all our hardships, and probably owing to the outdoor life, the health of the staff was remarkably good.

"Unfortunately, we were not able to carry on the work so well begun at Guevgueli. To our grief and dismay, rumours reached us that Serbia was to be evacuated, and soon definite orders came to fall back upon Salonica as fast as possible; so, with our hearts full of disappointment, we made our preparations for departure. After the evacuation of our patients, who were sent down to Salonica on hospital trains, the Unit had only two or three days in which to pack, and we were very proud of accomplishing this without leaving anything behind. All our tents, stores, medical equipment, X-ray apparatus, and other belongings were brought safely away, and both staff and equipment travelled down to Salonica in trucks on one of the last few trains which left Guevgueli before it was taken by the enemy. I went down ahead, with two other members of the Unit, to Salonica to see what ground we could have for a camp there, and for two days scoured the neighbourhood in search of a suitable spot. The very day that the site was decided upon I was dismayed to find seventy-one people arriving and not a single bed to put them into. For the first night most of our staff slept in the Evacuation Hospital at the Station, where only very wretched accommodation was available. The next night two large huts were lent to us, which gave us shelter until we were able to pitch our tents. After the experience of the loss of our tent-poles, and the knowledge that the Greeks are born thieves, we decided not to lose sight of our quipment, and four members of the staff slept in the trucks and never left them un-

protected by night or day until sufficient transport could be secured for the removal of the whole to our camp. This was slow work, owing to the fact that other hospitals were arriving on the top of us and all demanding transport for their equipment.

"The difficulties which we had to encounter during the first fortnight were enormous; everything was more or less in chaos: the Greeks were sullen and unwilling to help in any way, our camp a morass knee-deep in mud after abnormally heavy rains, and, added to this, a convoy of sixty-seven Serb patients had to be received into our hospital before it was ready. However, one by one our difficulties were overcome, and at the formal re-opening of the hospital, on January 1st, our camp had become quite a comfortable place of abode, and the miseries of the first arrival had been forgotten in the joy of having the Hospital once again in working order.

"Since then, the ordinary routine of hospital life has been going on, enlivened by the excitement of air raids and, on one or two occasions, the falling of bombs quite close to the camp, the crowning excitement of all being the night when the Zeppelin L 85 was brought down and captured.

"Our visitors, both French and British, of the early days, who had had practically to wade into our dining-tent for 'afternoon tea,' were delighted when they visited us later to find such a change. Admiral Stuart Nicholson was one of the first of our British visitors, and the next day he sent a number of bluejackets from his flagship 'Exmouth' to help us with the tents, and, in recognition of the 'handy-men,' one of the Hospital tents is now named 'The Exmouth.'

"At present the camp is a very fine one, with good roads, well-drained, and, in addition to our tents, we have added a good many wooden buildings—a fine operating and X-ray hut, as well as kitchen, bath-rooms, and store-rooms. The number of the tents has also been increased by the present of two beautiful hospital tents from the Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Federation. This gift was enormously appreciated by the Unit, as it enabled them to offer thirty more beds to the French.

"I should like here to bear testimony to the unfailing courtesy and helpfulness that we experienced at the hands of the French military authorities—one and all—so anxious to make things as easy for us as possible under the circumstances. To crown all, General Sarrail's recognition of the good work done by the Unit in Serbia and Salonica by presenting me, as their representative, with the Croix de Guerre, was felt deeply by all. The surgical skill of our medical staff, with Dr. McIlroy at its head, won this recognition, together with the efficiency of the nursing staff, and I should also like to testify to the good work done by both the X-ray department under Miss Edith Stoney, and the bacteriological department under Dr. Isabel Emslie. Not only did they do valuable work in our own Hospital, but were also asked to do work for other hospitals, and Miss Stoney had several outside patients who came to her for electrical treatment. The electric-lighting of the whole camp was also undertaken by her.

"And what of our patients, the French soldiers? Well, we found them just the same delightful, courteous, grateful men that we nursed at Troyes—only they were still more pathetic because they were in a foreign country, and 'Visitors' Day,' which brought their nearest and dearest to see them when in France, only meant in Serbia and Salonica a visit from a comrade. So we had to make up to them for the loss of their women-folk, and they appreciated the womanly touch which they found in our hospital, though discipline had to be rigorously maintained, the more so, perhaps, from the fact that we were women. Many was the proof we had of their love and affection for the hospital after they had left. One day I was walking along the streets in Salonica, when I heard a voice saying, 'Madame la Directrice,' and on turning round I found a soldier saluting with a most joyful smile on his face. It was one of our old patients at Troyes, now in perfect health and serving with his regiment at the Front. He told me he had just met two of our sisters, and that it had been such a joy to him to see them again.

"Space forbids me now to relate any more stories of the French 'Poilu,' whom we have come to understand so well, and from the knowledge gained we know that France may well be proud of her soldiers as Great Britain is of hers. Many of us who have worked with the two Armies have as warm a feeling towards the one as towards the other."

## The Cultivation of Medicinal Herbs.

Some time ago a leaflet was issued by the Board of Agriculture calling attention to the urgent need for the cultivation in this country of medicinal herbs, owing to the growing shortage of drugs, which before the war we obtained chiefly from mid-Europe, particularly Germany and Austria-Hungary. Medicinal herbs, the pamphlet points out, have been cultivated in this country for centuries, and in the Middle Ages were grown in kitchen-gardens attached to monastic establishments and great country houses; but though at the present time there are a few large farms in England devoted to this purpose, the acreage under cultivation has steadily decreased owing to the competition of foreign drugs. Now that our usual source of supply has been cut off, prices have greatly risen, and of some kinds of herbs there is almost a famine.

"The present time," the pamphlet points out, "is particularly favourable for the establishment of a home industry in the cultivation of medicinal plants—not only for home use but possibly for export—for it is not anticipated that prices will revert to their old level until long after the war is over. Prices are now sufficiently good to meet with ease the present high cost of labour, and it is felt that judicious cultivation of drug plants should result in quite adequate profit."

With a view to making inquiries as to what openings there are for women in connection with drug cultivation, I paid a visit the other day to Mrs. Grieve, who for some years past has been making interesting experiments in growing medicinal herbs at her nursery gardens in Chalfont St. Peter. Since the war Mrs. Grieve has devoted her nurseries almost entirely to this work, only keeping up her flower-gardens sufficiently to provide the necessary training for her pupils, and the valuable collection of specimens which she showed at several exhibitions lately have been the means of creating considerable interest.

"I have been simply inundated with inquiries," Mrs. Grieve told me, "as the result of my exhibits. People write and ask me all sorts of questions, and it is impossible, with only one secretary, to keep pace with my correspondence." She showed me a table heaped with letters, and another on which pamphlets of various kinds were piled in orderly array, ready to be sent off for the information of anxious inquirers.

"One branch of my work," continued Mrs. Grieve, "has been the compilation of leaflets dealing with the history and cultivation of special herbs. All the best books on materia medica are very expensive. I have them for reference myself, but it is not worth while for a grower who intends to specialise in one or two particular kinds of plant to spend several pounds on books as a preliminary. These little leaflets give all the information needed in a farm. There is one on belladonna, a plant which is in very great demand just now; and another on the dandelion. It is surprising, by the way, how ignorant people are about this plant. They know vaguely that it is used in medicine, and I get great bundles of it sent to me sometimes half-decayed and with the roots broken off. The part used, medicinally, of course, is the root; but the flowers make an excellent wine, which is very wholesome, and the young leaves are good as a salad. It is a most valuable plant if properly dealt with, but is generally wasted."

"Now that there is such a shortage of herbs," I suggested, "I suppose wild plants are being collected and utilised?"

"Only to a very small extent," was the reply. "You see, the manufacturing chemists will not buy small quantities. They like to purchase a whole acre or more of a particular plant at a time, and if they cannot do it in this way they go without. I am afraid they are relying on getting their supply from the old sources again after the war. There is a splendid opportunity for capturing the enemy trade just now; but it is being allowed to slide, and, meanwhile, the prices of drugs are going up by leaps and bounds, and people are suffering for lack of medicine."

"Are not some of the big nursery gardeners going in for herb cultivation just now instead of growing flowers?"

"Very few; for the most part they have shown as little enterprise as the manufacturers. It seems to be their impression that there is not enough money in herb-growing, and patriotism alone is not a sufficient inducement to them to take it up."

"But the Board of Agriculture seemed so optimistic about the prospects of herb-growing, and with such a big demand, it seems as if there must be profit to be made if only the whole thing could be organised."

"That is just the difficulty. The Board of Agriculture has

done practically nothing but issue an appeal to growers; and the growers themselves are hanging back for want of a more definite lead. I have approached several people, but they all decline to move."

"Perhaps the growers are afraid to lay out capital because they know they will not be able to compete with the foreign market after the war. If they were certain of a protective tariff they might be more enterprising."

"That may be so. One reason why the foreign drugs are cheaper is that labourers' wages are lower abroad. That difference handicaps the English growers heavily."

"I gather, from what you tell me, that there is practically no opening for women who are only able to grow a small quantity of herbs?"

"Very little, at present, in actually supplying the manufacturers. People often write and tell me that they have, say, two hundredweight of a particular kind of plant to dispose of, and ask me how they can find a purchaser; but as a rule I cannot help them. There is, however, great scope for gathering and saving seeds. Perennial and biennial seeds can still be planted, and cuttings of everything that will root should also be made, as in this way large reserve stocks of medicinal herbs can be accumulated.

"The small grower would readily find a market if doctors would use the plants themselves; but, so far, they do not seem inclined to make the experiment. Much more use could be made of simple old-fashioned remedies, such as dandelion-tea, prepared from fresh plants, instead of the more elaborate preparations sold in shops, but doctors will not be bothered to get them made up. If several would join together to employ a girl dispenser they could easily buy a small supply of herbs and have most of the remedies they need prepared."

"Do not any of the hospitals make their own drugs?"

"Yes, some are doing so already. St. Mary's and St. Bartholomew's, for example—and probably others will soon follow suit. Then there would be an opening for smaller growers to supply particular hospitals.

"Another thing which I am arranging, to help the smaller growers, is a special advertisement column in the *Pharmaceutical Journal Supplement*. Growers will state in the advertisement what they have for sale in the way of roots, or seeds, or plants, and invite offers, while manufacturers will be able to state their needs."

"It seems to me," I suggested, "that what is needed is connection with drug cultivation is a central distributing depôt, or a number of local depôts, where small quantities of plants can be collected and orders can be placed by manufacturers."

"Yes, distributing depôts are badly needed. I could manage one here, as I am so constantly being asked to dispose of plants, but I cannot afford the necessary outlay just at present, as the expenses of my experimental work have been very heavy. I sell a considerable quantity of roots, and seeds of medicinal herbs, but my original business is practically at a standstill, and I have not room in my present premises to grow large quantities of herbs of any particular kind.

"In this garden, where you see my pupils at work, there are specimens of almost every kind of plant used in medicine, and this has meant a large outlay. It is necessary to keep them going in order that the girls may gain the necessary experience. At many colleges they are content to lecture to the pupils and demonstrate to them the way in which particular processes are carried out, but I like my pupils to have actual practice, and to make acquaintance for themselves with as large a number of plants as possible, and they appreciate the opportunity this bit of ground offers."

The girls, indeed, looked very happy as they took advantage of a fine spell between the showers to put in a number of cuttings from some valuable plant. Many of the herbs I did not recognise, but it was astonishing to me, as I went round the grounds, to learn what a number of familiar plants are used in medicine—fennel, camomile, poppy, foxglove, wild rose, cornflower, and many others growing wild in field or hedgerow, as well as many favourite garden flowers, such as iris, larkspur, and peony.

"There is plenty of room," Mrs. Grieve explained, "to enlarge our activities if the capital were forthcoming. Land is to be had in the neighbourhood, where the herbs could be grown on a scale large enough for the market. I get a number of applications from girls who want to learn. There would then be an opening for a hostel in connection with the enterprise. At the present time I have to board some of my girls out, but accommodation of this kind is limited. A hostel would pay its way if it were well managed, and there is a nice little house empty now, close at hand, which could easily be enlarged as required.

"We could have our own drying-sheds, of course, if the enterprise grew, and a receiving depôt, to which other growers in the neighbourhood could send their plants. This would need careful organisation, or we should be inundated with plants we could not dispose of, while there was a shortage of others, but there is scope for a most useful bit of work.

"There is need, too, for more research work in connection with drugs, very little being known about the composition of certain compounds that have come from abroad and come into general use; while, as I said before, simple, old-fashioned remedies have passed into disrepute, though they are quite as efficacious and far less dangerous than many that are in common use."

## The Women-Police Service.

A new development in the work of the Women-Police Service is the appointment of its chief officer, Miss Damer Dawson, and its chief superintendent, Miss Allen, by the Ministry of Munitions to supply women-police for munition factories where there are large numbers of women workers. The police-women will be salaried by the Ministry of Munitions, and will be their servants. Their duties will be to investigate any case of complaint, to prevent petty thefts, to protect girls from assault or annoyance, and to search them, if necessary, for contraband. It is a hopeful sign that a Government Department has realised the necessity for employing trained women for this work instead of relying on amateurs.

"This is not work that women can possibly carry out without training," states Miss Damer Dawson. "There is a tendency, especially among men, to think either that women can do nothing at all, or else that they can do anything by a sort of instinct without the preparation that would be thought essential in the case of men. In our work training is of enormous importance, and I am glad that this is beginning to be understood."

"What does the training consist of?" I asked.

"We begin with military drill, to teach discipline, and how to stand and walk in the streets. It makes a great difference to a police-woman's influence if she holds herself with an air of authority, instead of with the ordinary civilian slouch. Then we teach ambulance work and first aid, so that our members can be useful in street accidents, and we hold classes in common and statutory law relating to women and children, and procedure and rules of evidence in police-courts.

"By the courtesy of the police we are also able to obtain practical instruction in police duties. By permission of Sir Edward Henry we are allowed to give the police assistance, which they are usually glad to accept, in dealing with women and girls. Our members, for instance, will stand by a girl in court, and will take charge of a woman who has been remanded or discharged. They also undertake investigations; the advantage of having a woman to perform this work in certain cases being obvious. In cases between husband and wife, or when a man and a woman are drunken or quarrelling, one of our members will take charge of the woman while the constable deals with the man. If the police are friendly our women are often allowed to lay the charge; otherwise, they hand the case over to the sergeant, who lays the case himself.

"We have also the authority of the General Officer Commanding the London District to co-operate with the military police, and to call upon them for assistance, and this greatly increases our usefulness. Here is an example of the way in which we co-operate. One of our police-women, in plain clothes, saw a woman taking money and papers from a soldier, both being drunk. The couple then went into a public-house together. She went to the military police and asked for a man to accompany her, and a corporal was sent, who took off the man while she took charge of the woman.

"Our work," concluded Miss Damer Dawson, "is increasing rapidly. What we now want is to be brought under the Police Act, which would provide for our being sworn in, and for pay, pension, and compensation. Hundreds of women have been trying to do something like the kind of work that we are doing in connection with the rescue and charitable societies, and have given the best years of their life and all their energies and enthusiasm for a mere pittance, only to find themselves, at the age of fifty or so, worn out before their time and thrown upon some philanthropic body for support. Women have yet to learn their own value and to refuse to allow themselves to be exploited. If properly paid, and with an assured provision for their old age, they could do far better work, and would be likely to take a wider and more robust view of things. I am convinced that women have now an immense opportunity of improving their status, if they will only grasp it."

# Correspondence.

## THE WOMAN ORDERLY.

MADAM,—In your article of May 18th, "Women as Army Cooks and Orderlies," it is said that "women are rapidly replacing men as orderlies, cooks," &c. May I point out that far more women *could* replace them if the authorities would either (1) provide quarters, (2) pay a living wage enabling workers to obtain quarters, (3) utilise quarters which are available?

I enclose a copy of Regulations for V.A.D. members applying for special service, in which it states that head cooks and assistant cooks get respectively 16s. and 20s. weekly, with food. They get no quarters, or washing, and in many places it is impossible to get a room at all. Some manage to obtain a single room for 10s. *without attendance* of any sort. Out of 16s. weekly, when room and washing is paid for, there remains the sum of 3s. 6d. I know of a widow-lady with a child to educate, who works as assistant cook for that noble wage, and she now hears that instead of *three* meals allowed, the food is to be reduced to *one*. Such scandalous under-payment of women should be made widely public. The authorities, unable to hit the happy medium between extravagance and meanness, are just exploiting women, now that they know they are willing to replace men.

Here is a glaring example of meanness which has come directly under my notice. Men orderlies get pay ranging from £27 to £32 per annum, with food, quarters, and everything found. V.A.D. orderlies (women) get £20 per annum, with everything found; *but*, so that women's pay shall be still further reduced, the authorities are now trying to work all hospitals *with less than* 100 *beds* with General Service Women and labour staff (scrubbers) only.

As a trained nurse I know that this latest scheme of the Army Council is utterly unworkable. If you glance at the list of General Service Women you will see there is nobody fitted to attend sick or wounded patients (even were cooks or telephonists willing to do so); but the patients, apparently, are the last to be considered.

Here is an example of crass stupidity, and red-tape "entanglements." In this place orders came to replace men by women orderlies, cooks, &c. Suitable women were engaged and vacant married quarters furnished for them (at no expense to Government); then followed an order cancelling the employment of V.A.D. nurses in all hospitals with less than 100 beds, and forbidding the quarters to be utilised. Result: *Many able-bodied men (so greatly needed) kept on at the hospital, at far greater expense to the nation than women would be.*

Alas! No salutary comments on such schemes can ever reach the Army Council from men in the Service, for the simple reason that Service men are muzzled. It rests with women to make such scandals public. If the Matrons in the Medical Department of the War Office are entirely ignored with regard to the employment of women in hospitals, then their position is a false one; but if their opinion is asked, then they are not the right women in the right place.

A TRAINED NURSE.

## WE CANNOT DO WITHOUT OUR PAPER.

Miss Emily Rigby writes to suggest a way in which the circulation of THE COMMON CAUSE can be increased by a small effort on the part of branches of the N.U. "It would be a considerable help to the circulation if each branch became responsible for half-a-dozen extra copies weekly. May I suggest two ways in which this could easily be done? Let some member order each week with her own copy a few extra ones, and take them to sell to members and friends in her own neighbourhood, who do not already subscribe. She will, in all probability, find, like two of the members of my Society who are carrying out the same plan, that they are easily disposed of. Persons who will not buy in the street will often buy at their own door. Some agree to take one every week: others are only occasional purchasers. Again, there are few Societies, I imagine, who cannot afford to distribute gratis a few copies a week to doctors' and dentists' consulting-rooms, hotels, cafés, &c. We are sending to a dozen or so of the Soldiers' Institutes in our town.

**"We cannot do without our paper!** Shall we not each do our 'bit' in these dark days to keep this flag flying?"

# Some Press Cuttings.

"There is a movement on foot," says *The Manchester Guardian*, "to give votes to all enlisted men under the Registration Bill now in course of preparation. That would, of course, make it into a Franchise Bill practically indistinguishable from manhood suffrage. . . . Should it be decided to make military service, apart from any other qualification, a ground of enfranchisement in case of a General Election during the war, this will necessarily bring in a vast number of new voters. In view of this possibility a memorial, which we print in another column, has been presented to the Prime Minister, signed on behalf of a number of Suffrage Societies and by leading Trade Unionists, praying that women, whose services during the war have been scarcely, if at all, less than those of the men serving with the colours, shall be included in the scope of the measure or brought in under a separate Bill. It is a just and reasonable demand, and one which, we are confident, will meet with very wide sympathy from numbers of people who before the war were indifferent or even hostile to the enfranchisement of women. For ourselves, we are far from being in love with the proposal to make military service alone a qualification for the vote. To do so is to give an undue and exaggerated importance to this particular side of the duty of the citizen, and under a compulsory system the franchise could not even be regarded as the reward of a patriotic sacrifice. But what seems to us clear is that the immense voluntary effort of the women is at least as worthy of recognition as is that of the men, and that to invite and accept their services as citizens in all manner of civic labour and then refuse them the same recognition of citizenship as is freely accorded to their brothers would be a shocking example of a poor and peddling spirit."

"I do not pretend," says a writer in *The Daily Mail*, "to know exactly how many women are at this moment, to use the words of the blameless Census, 'engaged in occupations,' which means working for salary or wage, as distinguished from that unpaid work of which we truly say that women's work is never done. Certain it is that many hundreds of thousands of women and girls have stepped into places lately occupied by their fathers or brothers or husbands or sweethearts who have gone to the war. . . .

"I am sure we do not yet fully realise what we owe to the part women have played in the war. Little of imagination we have showed, most of us, in respect of it. Great, wise, and eminent men, entrusted with Governmental powers, declared early in the war, in private and in public, that the nation was marching to ruin because it was being denuded of workers. What would become of our trade? we were asked. What of our exports? What of the means to finance our Allies? Would we, to quote one pretty phrase that sticks in my memory, 'burst up the whole show' by drafting into the Army and out of production indispensable, irreplaceable, irretrievable men? Little they recked, these pessimists, of what Woman could do. And it is not merely that women are serving as makeshifts or stopgaps. In the great majority of cases the evidence shows they are doing their new jobs *as well as men, or better*. Let me give two very diverse illustrations of this important fact.

"The first relates to the great headquarters staff of the National Insurance Commissioners. As a member of the Retrenchment Committee I had pleasure of hearing evidence to the effect that a very large proportion of the male insurance clerks had gone to the war and had been replaced by women, who found no difficulty in doing all that had been done by their predecessors.

"The second relates to a great engineering works, that of Messrs. Beardmore. The head of this firm recently stated in public, and his statement has not been contradicted, that on some jobs women were not only doing the work lately done by men, but turning out *twice as much product in the same time*. . . .

"The door is now widely open, and it cannot again be closed. The war has done more for the economic independence of women than twenty years of peace. I rejoice that it is so, for the woman's cause is man's also. If I may slightly vary the Prime Minister's favourite quotation from Shakespeare: 'In the reproof of chance stands the true test of—women.'"

*The Yorkshire Observer* also champions the women's cause:—

"If men knew and understood more about the intimate conditions of women's lives . . . a finer harmony between the sexes would be the result. . . . When peace comes again there will be questions that will need a deeper and more patient understanding and sympathy between men and women than have hitherto been called for. The position of the huge numbers of women who have broken up their former lives and habits to take on war work, and have developed new skill and new needs in consequence of the new experiences, will have to be handled with peculiar insight and wisdom. To turn them all out neck and crop, with no provision and no guidance towards a re-settlement in the old or in new pursuits might lead to a widespread sense of injury and resentment, which would be a weakening of the nation at a time when its vitality was already lowered, and a slackening of the pace towards recuperation. The way women have responded to the calls that war work has made upon them shows how willing they are to serve when the need is manifest, and they will doubtless acquiesce no less heartily in any course that is fair and equitable when reconstruction and replacement in industry come to be necessary.

"But their views will have to be patiently considered and given their due weight, and large numbers of women feel that the best, the most constitutional, and the safest way to do that is to give them the vote. Many men who before the war were opposed to Woman Suffrage are now converted to it; they think that women have earned so much recognition by the State by the responsibilities they have shouldered and triumphantly borne, and the example of those of our Colonies who have tried the experiment shows that in those countries where most is expected of the women folk the State does well to entrust them with political power and responsibility."

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**The N.U.W.S.S. is an association of over 50,000 men and women who have banded themselves together, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. At this great national crisis, however, they have for the time suspended their ordinary political activities, and are devoting their organisation to various efforts which have for their object the sustaining of the vital strength of the nation.**

## The Birth-Rate.

The Report* of the National Birth-rate Commission, which was instituted, with official recognition, by the National Council of Public Morals, gives, as fully as possible, the results of investigations carried out during two years and a half. The Commission puts it upon record that the birth-rate has declined to the extent of approximately one-third during the past thirty-five years, and that this decline, though general, has been more marked among the prosperous classes; so much so, in fact, that in spite of the heavier infant mortality among the poor, their surviving children are much more numerous. "The birth-rate in Great Britain is strongly selective, the nett as well as the gross surplus of births over deaths varying (as a rule) inversely with the social position of the family." It is curious, by the bye, to note that while the Commission considers that there is no reason to believe that the higher education of women has any important effect in diminishing physiological aptitude to bear children (thus confirming the results obtained by Mrs. Henry Sidgwick's inquiry in 1890), one of the witnesses was emphatic in his testimony as to the result of educational strain upon men, and in connection with the very low birth-rate in his own circle of college friends, he added, "We were sinfully over-educated in my time." The fact that so many laborious intellectual workers have left few or no descendants may perhaps be thus interpreted, having regard to the excessive mental strain undergone in youth and early manhood.

Perhaps the chief point of interest in the Report, however, is given on page 41, where it is stated explicitly that every rise in the condition of the artisan tends, at present, to lower the birth-rate in his class, with the yet wider application of the rule —"wherever the political and social conditions bring a man or a class into a position in which he hopes to rise or fears to fall, the family will be restricted." The adoption of a high or rising standard of comfort or of ambition is so immediately and directly registered by a fall in the birth-rate in the class in question, that the reader is left wondering how far the remedies or palliatives suggested in the report would have the desired effect. Higher wages and better housing, for instance, are desirable in themselves, but can hardly be relied upon to remove the restraints which now exist upon the size of families. Economic readjustments, and even "the wise distribution of State burdens" would hardly avail, taken by themselves, if "restriction of families prevails most in the classes in which the conditions of life are most favourable."

Something more is needed. These classes, rightly or wrongly, decide that life below certain standards of comfort or attainment is (for them) not worth living. They will not bring children into the world unless they can assure to them education and a maintenance in that class to which they belong. Family interests and class interests have been so strong that national interests have dropped out of sight. Sometimes a theorist would remind us that the greatest number of births came from the reckless and improvident, that we were "breeding chiefly from inferior stocks," but nobody heeded them much, until a Euorpean war took such toll of only sons that the most unwilling eyes were opened to these aspects of a national question. Now we know we must look to our ways.

A sharp dividing line is drawn by a small and decreasing body of schismatics, between the province of the home (which

* *The Declining Birth-rate: Its Causes and Effects.* (Chapman & Hall. 7s. 6d. net.)

in some respects is allowed to be women's province) and the province of the State, from which women were to be for ever excluded. There is no dividing line. The national work of safeguarding the race cannot be carried on by isolated women, entirely under the control of the male legislator.

Left to himself, the male legislator has perhaps perpetrated more of the monstrosities of legislation in this very province than in any other. Napoleon, for instance, to remedy depopulation by war, saw fit to release the Frenchman from all obligation to support his illegitimate offspring. The "Recheche de paternité" was forbidden; the whole burden shifted on to the weaker sex. The present German Government is reported to have offered a reward for every child born by a woman of a conquered race to a German soldier. The mother, it has been bitterly said, has no rights—only burdens, and no effective voice in the rearing and education of her children.

The only permanent and real solution of the problem of the declining birth-rate, must be sought through the enfranchisement of women, and the assumption by them of their responsibilities to the State; and without the co-operation of women the legislator will continue to make grotesque and ineffectual regulations, and to marvel at his unsuccess.

# "A Shadowy Page of Economic History."

By Mrs. Stocks.

III.

It is difficult to reconcile the Germany of the corn monopoly and the bread-card system with the Germany which the British Press presents to us to-day—a land of smouldering disaffection, charging police, raided shops, and desperate suppressions. Even the fettered German Press from time to time reflects a gleam of domestic trouble; on one occasion it is the Socialist *Vorwärts* which describes a particular municipal meat sale as "lebensgefährlich"—dangerous to life; on another it is a grave official notice to the effect that rumours of rioting and firing in a recent Berlin market, are unfounded, the noise being, as a matter of fact, occasioned by the accidental overturning of an iron stove; and, once in the Reichstag, that haven of free speech, Herr Liebknecht succeeded in shouting above the din of hooting deputies, that the censor was consistently suppressing all accounts of prosecutions connected with food disturbances and peace demonstrations. And, perhaps most significant of all, are the long unaccountable silences of *Vorwärts*. But one thing at least is certain, and that is that, with the exception of the corn distribution, the story of German food legislation constitutes an unbroken dreary tale of breakdown and capitulation—of an Empire under the sway of one of its component parts—of an economic organism dominated by the individualism of particular interests. Without doubt the villain of the food tragedy is the large-scale farmer, hoarding his produce in the rural places, pleading his cause on the Parliamentary platforms of Berlin, and dictating his terms in the Prussian Ministry for Agriculture.

The most outstanding series of breakdowns is to be found in the case of the maximum prices—a form of control which has been applied haphazard to almost every form of foodstuff in turn since the municipalities got to work in the early days of August, 1914. In spite of the havoc wrought by the Imperial maximum war prices during November, 1914, the end of that same month saw the introduction of Imperial maximum potato prices. In spite of the breakdown of the maximum potato prices in the spring of 1915, in spite of Herr Delbrück's open confession of the inefficiency of such regulations during the August Reichstag discussions, the autumn of 1915 brought a positive flood of new maximum prices, including pork prices and a new attempt at potato prices—both of which had resulted in a dislocation of their respective markets before the end of the year. Without doubt the persistent mistakes of this incomprehensible nation are more astounding than its persistent successes!

Now, in analysing the causes of the breakdown of these various price orders, it must be remembered that maximum prices are not only manifold but also multiform. There are Imperial maximum prices, State maximum prices, local maximum prices, producers', dealers', wholesalers', and retailers' maximum prices, civil maximum prices, and military maximum prices, and such combinations of these as can occur to the ingenuity of an energetic bureaucrat. The Imperial maximum corn prices, of questionable fame, were dealers' prices pure and simple, and applied to transactions in the corn market. The Imperial potato prices of November, 1914, were producers' prices, applying only to sales by the grower. The Imperial meat prices, of November, 1915, illustrate the very favourite combination of Imperial producers' and local wholesalers' and retailers' prices; while throughout Germany, since the first stages of war, local civil or military authorities have resorted to all manner of maximum-price schemes with varying ill-success.

Obviously, particular forms of price regulation carry with them particular forms of economic weakness, and the principal diseases to which this type of legislation is prone may be roughly grouped under four heads: In the first place, we meet the more or less superficial and curable evil of maladjustment between producers', dealers', and retailers' prices, defects which may result in the ruin of an entire group of middlemen or the dislocation of trade between the various classes. Such a dislocation occurred in the meat trade during the autumn of 1915, when the farmers and dealers disagreed as to which of them was entitled to claim the maximum prices, with the result that the dealers were unable to resell at a profit, and, accordingly, refused business. In the second place, we meet horizontal maladjustment between localities as compared with vertical maladjustment between classes, and a locality with an isolated or unduly high maximum price may find itself bereft of supplies until the said price be raised, abolished, or flouted. Such was the defect which led to the fiasco of the Imperial corn prices and to the successful boycott by sellers of agricultural produce of the town of Tilsit, which during the autumn of 1915 was so bold as to introduce a drastic maximum-price scheme of its own. In the third place, every maximum-price measure must reckon with countless forms of evasion, undue preferences, manipulations of weight or quality, commissions open or secret, such, for example, as the preference of the dairyman for a regular customer, the sack-weighing of the farmer, the bone-weighing of the butcher, and the ball-dress which the stock dealer gives to the farmer's daughter. And last, but not least, above and beyond particular dislocations and evasions, lies the fundamental fact that in face of price legislation farmers and dealers invariably refuse to sell, and without a drastic and comprehensive policy of confiscation it is exceedingly difficult to force them to do so. Moreover, experience has shown that a policy of wholesale confiscation is one which the Imperial Government is exceedingly reluctant to adopt. It demands the most complex administrative machinery; it is obviously unsuited to those very perishable commodities, whose plight most urgently demands it—fat, butter, milk, pork; the mightiest of political forces in the most imperious of States is on the side of the agricultural producer; and, finally, without doubt it is as well to deal very tenderly with the food producer upon whose business energy such vital interests depend. Indeed, it may be questioned how far the German Government itself is really serious about its maximum prices, or how far they represent crumbs of temporary comfort thrown to a complaining populace in the hope of distracting it from a scarcity which no amount of price-manipulation can cure.

Thus it is that the Government prefers to interfere with the patient consumer; and so, on the top of broken-down price legislation general attempts have been made to resort to a card and ration system, to all outward appearances resembling the bread-card system, but with this difference: That the bread-card is backed by an Imperial monopoly and carries with it a guarantee of supply; while the butter-card, the meat-card the fat-card, or the potato-card, as the case may be, is nothing more than an engine of limitation; and the weary Hausfrau may wait half the day outside private shop or municipal stall for her weekly three ounces of butter, her fat, meat or potatoes, with every prospect of coming away with empty hands and torn clothes at the end of it. Meanwhile, the red, white, and black is floating proudly above the clean streets of Berlin, and a band is playing most divinely at the feet of the iron Hindenburg.

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# Notes from Headquarters.

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*Hon. Secretaries:* Miss Evelyn Atkinson. Mrs. Oliver Strachey (Parliamentary)
*Hon. Treasurer:* Mrs. Auerbach.
*Secretary:* Miss Helen Wright.
*Offices:* Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone—4673 Vic. & 4674 Vic.

## New Sub-Committees.

Two new Sub-Committees have been formed, one of which—a Committee for the formation of Women Citizens' Associations—will amalgamate with the already-existing Friends of Women's Suffrage Committee. It is expected that the new Committee will draw up some suggestions for the formation of Women Citizens' Associations, to be sent to the Societies. It will be remembered that the formation of these Commitees was recommended by the Council, but that, owing to the war, the recommendation was not generally put into effect.

A Parliamentary Sub-Committee has been formed, the following having consented to serve upon it: The Hon. Officers of the N.U., Mrs. Coombe Tennant, Mrs. Robie Uniacke, Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher, Mr. Oliver Strachey, Miss Clough, Mrs. Stocks, Miss Rathbone, and Miss Violet Eustace, who was appointed to act as Parliamentary Secretary to the Committee.

## Reception at Headquarters.

The Delegates to the British Dominions Overseas Woman Suffrage Union Conference have been invited by Mrs. Fawcett, the Executive Committee, and the Directors of The Common Cause to a reception at Headquarters on Tuesday, June 27th, at four o'clock, to meet Mrs. Harley, who has recently returned from her long absence in France and Serbia.

## Changes in the Staff.

Mrs. Flintham, who has been acting as Assistant-Secretary for nearly a year, has been obliged to resign for family reasons, and her place in the Inquiry Room will be filled by Miss Price, formerly Honorary Secretary to the Wrexham W.S.S.

## Millicent Fawcett Hospital Units for Refugees in Russia.

The National Union is making great efforts to help the refugees from the war zone in Russia, and has undertaken important medical work, particularly for women and children, in co-operation with the Zemstvos, and with the Great Britain to Poland Fund. A successful Maternity Hospital has been established in Petrograd, and now doctors and nurses are being sent to Galicia behind the lines, and to the Province of Kazan, to cope with cholera, small-pox, and other infectious diseases which the refugees are carrying to the Russians. £6,145 has already been raised, and another £3,250 is needed before January; also £125 to complete the purchase of a motor-ambulance for Galicia. Will you help?

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| | £6,144 | 4 | 1 |

The Hon. Treasurers gratefully acknowledge a splendid cheque for £45 received from the Women's Municipal Party from the concert given by their President, the Duchess of Marlborough, who is one of our Patronesses. Another £5 has also been received from Ilkley, bringing Mrs. Isaac Smith's drawing-room meeting up to £127 14s. Further subscriptions should be sent to the Countess of Selborne, or to Miss Sterling, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, London, S.W.

The Lord Mayor of London has forwarded to the National Union the following telegram:—

"Hospital for Refugee Children opened yesterday by Great Britain Poland Galicia Fund and National Union of Women's Suffrage Society in presence of Mayor Kazan, Vice Chancellor University. Mayor Kazan begs you accept warm greetings; considers action British Relief Workers lasting link chain between friendly Allied nations.

"Boronin Mayor."

Dr. Alice Benham, with Miss Fordyce, a pharmacist and dispenser, and Sisters Argent, Crowe, and Murphy left King's Cross on June 18th, and embarked at Newcastle that same evening for Bergen. They hope they will reach Petrograd safely and swiftly, as Miss Moberley has telegraphed: "Send Units speedily." They took with them valuable stores of drugs, surgical instruments, and the clothing so generously provided by members of our Society and their friends. We hope to print the list next week of all our kind contributors.

We have received the following appreciative letter from a Hampstead member about the new name of our Hospital Units:—

"I was much pleased to see in last week's Common Cause that it has been decided to change the name of the Units of help to Russia to the 'Millicent Fawcett Hospital Units,' which in the minds of those I know, will connect them definitely with Women's Suffrage. . . . I have much pleasure in enclosing a donation."

We expect to publish next week an itemised list of our nine undertakings in Russia, hoping that other Federations will follow the example of West Lancs, West Cheshire, and North Wales Federations, who have made themselves responsible for the Hospital at Kazan.

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| Jewellery sold ... ... ... | 2 | 8 | 9 |
| | £1,499 | 5 | 6 |

The Hon. Treasurer is very much obliged for the substantial sums sent to the General Service Fund this week, £10 from the Bradford Suffrage Society, £5 from the Hitchin, Stevenage, and District Society, and £5 each from Mrs. Robie Uniacke and Mrs. Edward Smithson. £2 8s. 9d. has also been realised from the sale of some old jewellery sent by some of our members. Eight additional Societies have paid their affiliation fees, but we are still £200 behind in affiliation fees, and beg our Societies to remember that we need their fees very badly if we are to carry on our "watch-dog" and organising work at Headquarters.

## IMPORTANT.

**Lost Letters Addressed to the National Union.**

Cheques should be crossed.

Postal Orders should be crossed, and filled in N.U.W.S.S.

Treasury Notes should be treated like coins, and *always* registered.

If any contributions remain more than two days unacknowledged, please write at once to the Secretary, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.

Please address letters containing money either to the Secretary, or to Mrs. Auerbach or Miss Sterling by name, *not* to the Treasurer.

## THE WALTER McLAREN MEMORIAL.

Writing to inform Mrs. McLaren of the resolution passed by her Committee "that the bust of Mr. Walter McLaren be presented to Mrs. Eva McLaren," Miss Bertha Mason asks her to accept a memorial "which has been subscribed to by many friends, men as well as women, who were associated with Mr. Walter McLaren in his life's work for the promotion of justice to women, purity of life, an equal moral standard for men and women, and the uplifting of humanity generally—and who held his name in gratitude and reverence."

Mrs. McLaren, in her letter of thanks to Miss Mason, writes:—

"I wish I could find words which would adequately express my sense of gratitude to those who have so generously responded to the appeal made to them to contribute towards this memorial. I can only feel glad that he cared as he did for the cause of womanhood, and that those who worked with him learnt to appreciate his earnestness and his single-heartedness, and I realise that what he tried to do is greater thanks than any I can offer. But, indeed, I am very grateful to all the contributors and to the Committee for all the work they have done in connection with the memorial.

"I have tried to find a suitable home for the bust in Edinburgh, but have failed, and meantime I am asking the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies to allow me to place it in their office until after the war. I much hope that then the Committee will help me to secure a spot in London, preferably out of doors, where the bust might stand."

Mrs. McLaren's generous offer of the loan of the memorial bust of her husband to the N.U.W.S.S. was before the Executive Committee on June 15th, and was gratefully accepted by them. It will probably be placed in the large Committee-room in which their late colleague, Mr. Walter McLaren, so often worked with them to promote the cause of the enfranchisement of women.

## A NEW UNIT FOR SERBIA.

The N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals are equipping another Unit for work in Serbia, in accordance with their promise to the Serbian Government to provide a hospital whenever it should be required. As in all probability the Hospital will be a mobile one, it will be housed in tents. It will have an up-to-date X-ray apparatus, a laboratory, and a fleet of motor-ambulances attached to it. The Hospital will be capable of accommodating two hundred patients, and the staff will number about seventy persons, under Dr. Agnes Bennett, from New Zealand, as Chief Medical Officer. Dr. Bennett is a graduate of Edinburgh University. She has had a great deal of experience, and many of the staff have been out in Serbia before with the Scottish Hospital Units. Contributions will be most gratefully received for this work, and an earnest appeal is made to all those who so generously supported the hospitals in the past to come forward and help again.

ORDERLIES.—The Honorary Secretary of the *Personnel* Committee, Scottish Women's Hospitals, 2, St. Andrew Square, would be willing to consider applications from suitable orderlies, between the ages of 24 and 35 years, who must be able to speak either French or German fluently, and must have had some hospital experience or training in domestic science. They are required to give their services voluntarily. Suitable applicants should lose no time in applying.

EQUIPMENT.—The Equipment Secretary again makes an urgent appeal for blankets, sheets, pillow-cases, and pyjamas. All those articles are badly needed.

The members of the Edinburgh St. Cuthbert's Women's Guild have sent a donation of £112 to the Scottish Women's Hospitals. This money was collected from the members of the St. Cuthbert's Association when they went to the Synod Hall to receive their dividends. The money has been handed to the Treasurer of the Scottish Women's Hospitals to name two beds "St. Cuthbert's Co-operative Women's Guild, Edinburgh" in the Abbaye de Royaumont, in France. The members of the Guild are to be congratulated on the excellent result of their unselfish efforts. The members of the Bonnyrigg Women's Guild also assisted in this work.

For List of Donations see over page.

## MISS BURKE'S TOUR.

Miss Kathleen Burke has returned this week from a very successful tour of the United States and Canada, in the course of which she has collected £12,000 for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals; another £2,000 has been promised. She has spoken in all the principal cities, having held about eighty meetings altogether. Canada was most enthusiastic, Miss Burke's success there being largely due to the gracious interest of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught.

To commemorate the generosity of Americans the next Unit of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, which is shortly to be sent to the Front, is to be known as the American Unit. Miss Burke leaves next week for France, where, by permission of the French Government, she will make a tour of the Front in order to gather material for her next tour in America, which she expects to start in August.

## For "The Common Cause."

The two years since the outbreak of war have brought abundance of new problems for us all, and of these, THE COMMON CAUSE, like every publishing venture, has had its full share. The first outstanding practical difficulty, how to reduce as far as possible our working expenses and to maintain the circulation, were met to a large extent by care and foresight on the part of the management and the loyalty of thousands of faithful friends—readers and writers too—who, through all the heavy pressure of war work and war burdens, have kept up their interest in THE COMMON CAUSE. So for nearly two years we have been able to come through unprosperous times without making a public appeal for financial aid. But now—

**We need at least £500 at once to "carry on" THE COMMON CAUSE.**

**WILL YOU HELP?**

**Never has THE COMMON CAUSE been more useful; never has it been so important a factor in the Suffrage work of the Societies.**

WE WANT TO INCREASE OUR USEFULNESS.

All over the country women are taking up new work and finding new openings. In the nineteenth century numerous kinds of work (including practically all well-paid work) were laid under a mysterious taboo—"not suitable for women"; and "a woman could not possibly manage to do" what thousands of women have done and are doing to-day. The hard and fast lines between men's work and women's work are no longer drawn, and in the future, where such distinctions are made, we may hope that they will not be purely arbitrary. But now, during the time of experiment, it is necessary to watch and record the results for future guidance, to note every bit of successful work done in a new field.

THE NATION IS LEARNING WHERE ITS STRENGTH LIES.

We want to keep the record of these discoveries. Women and girls are looking out anxiously for something which they can do for the country. We want, in THE COMMON CAUSE, to give them all the information necessary. And because the cost of collecting information at first hand, and of verifying reports, has now to be met out of the very scanty resources, we need money to make this possible.

WE WANT MORE ILLUSTRATIONS.

By this means we can give readers and the public a more vivid idea of all the work being done by Women-Suffragists at home and abroad in the Allied countries; the hospital work for the wounded, the co-operative schemes, the munition and "welfare" work, the care of babies and children, and all the wide fields covered by the Women's Interest Committees.

FOR WE WANT NOT ONLY TO MAINTAIN, BUT TO INCREASE OUR CIRCULATION.

Public interest in women's work is very keen. The story of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals in France and Serbia, told week by week in THE COMMON CAUSE, has found a new and widening circle of readers. Our work in Russia for Polish refugees is breaking new ground, bringing us in touch with the Women's Suffrage movement in Russia.

**Few Suffrage meetings are held nowadays, and our members are all busy with "war work," but however busy we are, we all want to keep in close touch with each other and with the work of our Societies for the Suffrage.**

We shall be grateful for every donation, however small, so please send to THE COMMON CAUSE, 14, Great Smith Street, S.W. All cheques and postal orders should be crossed Williams Deacon's Bank, and all treasury notes should be sent in registered envelopes.

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations:—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mrs. Alys Russell ... ... | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss Mary A. E. Milton ... | | 5 | 0 |
| Mrs. Grant ... ... ... ... | | 5 | 0 |
| Miss H. E. Knight ... ... | | 5 | 0 |
| Lady Mary Cazley ... ... | | 10 | 0 |
| Miss A. M. D. Teacher ... ... | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Mrs. P. Enfield Dowson ... | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Mrs. (or Miss) Turton ... ... | | 10 | 0 |
| Mrs. Grosvenor Talbot ... | | 5 | 0 |
| Mrs. Le Lacheur ... ... ... | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss Lever ... ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Dr. T. W. Brown ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Miss Lever ... ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Dr. T. W. Brown ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| | £18 | 2 | 0 |

## SUFFRAGISTS FROM OVERSEAS.

A Conference organised by the British Dominions Woman Suffrage Union is being held at Caxton Hall, Westminster, from July 5th. All particulars can be obtained from Miss Harriet Newcomb, c/o International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton Street, Piccadilly, W.

There will be a public meeting in connection with the Conference, when the speakers will be

Mrs. Despard,
Mr. Pethick Lawrence,
Mrs. Swanwick.

The N.U.W.S.S., although not one of the Societies promoting the Conference, is sending delegates. The N.U.W.S.S. also hopes to welcome the delegates from the Dominions to an At Home on June 27th, to meet Mrs. Harley, who has lately returned from Salonica after eighteen months' continuous work for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals in France and Serbia, in recognition of which she has been decorated by the French Government with the Croix de Guerre. The Suffrage representatives of the Dominions, who have themselves contributed so generously to war work of all kinds, will thus have an opportunity of hearing at first hand of one of the most important pieces of war work done by British Suffragists, which has done so much to dispel lingering prejudices against women's work at the front.

## SOME SUFFRAGE RESOLUTIONS.

At a public meeting of the Northern Men's Federation, held in the Synod Hall, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, June 7th, the following resolution was moved by Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck and carried unanimously :—

"That this meeting calls Mr. Asquith and the Coalition Government to grasp the present opportunity of recognising the right of women to full citizenship in the country which women do so much to maintain, and include them in the new Parliamentary Franchise Register, and thus secure for the defence of our liberties the incalculable strength of a genuinely united people."

The Irish Women's Franchise League has passed the following resolution, copies of which have been sent to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Munitions, and leaders of political parties, both Irish and English :—

"That no reform of Irish Government can be considered acceptable or permanent by Irish Suffragists which does not include votes for Irish women on the same terms as Irish men, and in the event of Ulster, or a portion of it, being excluded from any Home Rule scheme, we demand that the women of Ulster (or of any such excluded portion) should be consulted equally with the men as to the form of government which they prefer. We demand, furthermore, that women shall be directly represented on any advisory council or other political machinery which may be set up in Ireland."

At the Annual Meeting of the *Union Française pour le Suffrage des Femmes* the following resolution was proposed by Mlle. Bigot, and was passed :—

"That the women of the belligerent countries, who have suffered so much from the war, and who for many years will bear the consequences, demand from their respective Governments the right to take part in the diplomatic Conferences which will take place for the establishment of a treaty of peace, and that they may be represented there by one or two women. They demand this as much in reparation of the past, which has kept them in subordination, as as a pledge of enfranchisement for the future. They demand it above all in order to prevent the return of similar conflagrations."

## DONATIONS TO N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Brought forward ... | 117,634 | 1 | 8½ |
| *Rev. D. R. Kyd, B.D. (Serbians) ... ... ... | | 10 | 0 |
| *Sir R. Rowand Anderson ... | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| *Per Miss Kemp, per Miss A. T. Hope, from members of the family at home and abroad (£50 for 2nd year of "Hope" Bed, Royaumont, £25 for 3rd 6 months of "Hope" Bed, Salonika) ... | 75 | 0 | 0 |
| W. F. de B. Maclaren, Esq. ... | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| Alex. Cuthbert, Esq. ... ... | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| *Per Miss J. G. Thomson: Staff of Aberdeen High School for Girls (Serbians) | 4 | 6 | 0 |
| James Tennant, Esq. ... ... | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| James C. Barr, Esq. ... ... | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Per Miss Dorothy Montgonery and Miss Doris Laing, from sale of sweets (Corsica) ... | | 17 | 6 |
| *Per D. H. Lindsay, Esq., Headmaster, Staff, Coaltown of Wemyss Public School, Fife ... ... ... ... ... | | 18 | 0 |
| Per Miss Helen Cunliffe: From Boys of Ambleside Elementary School ... ... | | 12 | 0 |
| *Staff of Bruntsfield School, Edinburgh, per the Headmaster (Serbia) ... ... ... | 1 | 6 | 6 |
| *Per Miss M. W. Findlay, Infant Mistress: From Staff of Laigh Cartside School, Johnstone ... ... ... ... | | 11 | 0 |
| *Per R. Collett, Esq., Headmaster: Staff of Towerbank School, Portobello ... ... | | 10 | 0 |
| *Per Miss Lockhart, Hon. Treas., British Women's Temperance Association (for upkeep of B.W.T.A. Motor Ambulance at Royaumont for June) ... ... ... ... | 25 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss Stephen ... ... ... | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| *Per Miss Bury: Messrs. D. Brown & Sons, Buckhaven (towards "Leven and District" Bed) ... ... ... | 1 | 10 | 0 |
| *Per Miss Bury: Messrs. D. Methven & Sons, Kirkcaldy Pottery Employees ... ... | 3 | 4 | 0 |
| Mrs. N. C. H. Smith ... ... | | 10 | 0 |
| Per Miss M. D. Wilson, Hon. Sec., Brightside Women's Liberal Association, Sheffield, proceeds of Annual Meeting (Corsica) ... ... | 6 | 5 | 0 |
| Miss Lumsden ... ... ... | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss Lennie ... ... ... | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| Dr. Lauder ... ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| *Mrs. Chance ... ... ... | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| *Per Mrs. Mundella (collection for May from Sunderland W.S.S.): Workmen of Messrs. R. A. Bartram & Sons, Ltd. (£4 6s. 7d.), Per Miss J. Cleasby: Mrs. Common (10s.), Miss J. Common (10s.), Mr. and Mrs. E. Common (10s.), Mrs. Walford Common (5s.), Mrs. Garcia (2s. 6d.), A Friend (1s.), Household Economies at 4, Belford Road (13s.) (£2 11s. 6d.), S. G. (4s.), Workmen, Foremen, and Officials of Messrs. McColl & Pollock, Ltd. (£3), Per Miss Moncur: Mrs. Eyres (5s.), S. H. C. (4s.), Mrs. A. Johnson (10s.), Form VI., Bede Collegiate Girls' School (2s. 6d.), M. M. (6s.), Miss M. Panten (2s. 6d.), Miss A. Hedley (2s. 6d.) (£1 12s. 6d.). Per Mrs. Mundella: Nurse Hinch (1s.), Mrs. W. J. Oliver (1s.), Mrs. A. Ritson (2s.), Mrs. Mundella (2s.) (6s.), Workmen and Foremen of Messrs. Short Bros. Ltd. (£16 19s. 6d.), Mrs. Dalrymple Smith (6s. 6d.) ... | 28 | 16 | 7 |
| Employees, Jas. Dawson & Co., Brush Manufacturers, Dalkeith ... ... ... ... | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| *John Walker & Co., Sugar Refiners, Greenock (for 2nd year of "Hugh William Walker" Bed) ... ... ... | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| Per Miss Stallard Penoyse ... | | 12 | 6 |
| Frank Warrack, Esq. ... ... | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Miss D. H. Dundas ... ... | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| W. H. Coats, Esq., Director, J. & P. Coats, Ltd., Woodside, Paisley ... ... ... | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| *Per Mrs. Robertson: Employees, Messrs. Dick Ker & Co. (£3 19s. 10d.), Employees, Messrs. Boyd & Forrest (£2 13s. 2d.), Per Mrs. Cowan (7s.), Anon. (1s.) | 7 | 1 | 0 |
| *Per Mrs. Caleb, Ashfield, Lahore: From League of Help, Lahore ... ... ... | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Per Miss Kemp: Mrs. Beveridge ... ... ... ... ... | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| *Students of Queen Margaret College, per Miss M. Barrowman (for 2nd year "Queen Margaret College" Bed, Royaumont) ... ... ... | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| *W. Boyd Anderson, Esq. ... | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| *Per Miss S. Scott: From a Friend ... ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Staff of Inverkeithing Public School, per D. Scott, Esq., Headmaster ... ... ... | 2 | 6 | 0 |
| Miss Constance Tennant, per Miss Craigie, for loan of lantern slides ... ... ... | | 6 | 0 |
| Employees of Mr. John Ritchie, Kilmacolm ... ... | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| *Per Mrs. Robertson: Employees of Messrs. Muir & Co. (£1), Employees of Messrs. Boyd & Forrest (to name Bed, "Employees of Messrs. Boyd & Forrest, Kilmarnock," New Unit) (with previous donations) ... | 3 | 4 | 0 |
| Miss Mathewson ... ... ... | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| *Per Mrs. Young: R. A. Robertson, Esq. (£10), A Friend (10s.) (further towards "Trinity Heroes" Bed) ... ... ... ... | 10 | 10 | 0 |
| *Denotes additional donation. | | | |

The Hon. Treasurer begs once more to thank all those who have helped and are helping, and will gratefully receive further contributions to carry on the work. Cheques should be sent either to the Hon. Secretary, Dr. Elsie Inglis, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Laurie, Red House, Greenock, and crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland."

### Further List of Beds Named.

| *Donor.* | *Bed.* |
|---|---|
| "Hope" (Royaumont, 2nd year) ... | Per Miss A. T. Hope, 30, Lygon Road, Edinburgh, from members of the family at home and abroad. |
| "Hope" (Salonika, 3rd 6 months) ... | Per Miss A. T. Hope, 30, Lygon Road, Edinburgh, from members of the family at home and abroad. |
| "Hugh William Walker" (Salonika, 2nd year) ... ... ... ... ... | Messrs. John Walker & Co., Sugar Refiners, Greenock. |
| "Queen Margaret College" (Royaumont, 2nd year) ... ... ... ... | Students at Queen Margaret College, Glasgow, per Miss M. Barrowman, 15, North Claremont St., Glasgow. |
| "Employees of Messrs. Boyd & Forrest, Kilmarnock" (New Unit) ... ... | Employees of Messrs. Boyd & Forrest, Kilmarnock, per Mrs. Robertson. |
| "East Grinstead W.S.S." (Royaumont, 6 months) ... ... ... ... ... | East Grinstead W.S.S., per Miss Buckley, Hon. Treas., The Grange, Crawley Down. |
| "Boran" (Royaumont, 6 months) ... | Per Dr. Ivens, Royaumont (gift of French money). |

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Miss M. Mackie ... ... ... | | 2 | 6 |
| Per Dr. Ivens: Gift of French money to name "Boran" Bed, Royaumont, 6 months (628 francs) ... ... ... | 25 | 0 | 0 |
| Total ... ... | £118,035 | 18 | 3½ |

## MEMORIAL TO MR. J. KEIR HARDIE.

The J. Keir Hardie Memorial Committee, St. Bride's House, Salisbury Square, E.C., are appealing for subscriptions for a memorial "which shall be a visible embodiment of the man, and, if possible, a symbol of his work."

Mr. Keir Hardie was, the Committee point out, "the spokesman of the great moral crusades of his time, sometimes as a leader, sometimes from the ranks, but always true to them. Again, the whole Woman's Movement, in all its aspects, was greeted and helped by him with unstinted ardour and unquestioning gladness. He was a simple man with a great, loving heart, pitiful of all suffering humanity. There are many thousands in this and other countries who did not share his social and political views, but who, recognising the great ideas for which he strove, would desire to honour his memory by contributing to this Memorial Fund."

## ITEMS OF INTEREST.

By the casting vote of the chairman, a woman has been appointed assistant resident medical officer at Brownlow Institution, Liverpool.

A Petrograd telegram states that the German commandant at Libau has announced that the German Government will give a bounty of 19 marks for a boy and 12 marks for a girl born of a Lettish mother and a German soldier father.—(*The Times*, June 15th.)

Twelve girls are being trained in wireless telegraphy by the Marconi Company. Their course of instruction will end in August, having lasted for six months, and it will then be decided whether it will be possible to employ them. The success of this experiment will be watched with great interest.

The sum of £5,000 has been put in trust by Mr. Sam Gamble for scholarships to assist women medical students who have taken the First M.B. examination or have been excused that examination, and who intend to take the Manchester University's degree in Medicine. The scholars must be total abstainers and connected with a Christian denomination, and consideration will be taken of their financial circumstances.

A special entrance medical scholarship for a woman medical student at Manchester University (the gift of an anonymous donor) has just been awarded.

Dr. Helen Lauder, of Edgbaston, Birmingham, has been appointed as medical officer of the infant clinic, and school medical officer, by the Hyde Maternity and Infant Committee, on whom the Town Council conferred the power to appoint a woman medical officer. She will be the most highly paid official of the Hyde Corporation. For eighteen years Dr. Lauder worked in India in charge of hospitals for women and children, and had a large private practice amongst Europeans and Indians. She is at present assistant school medical officer in Birmingham. The local doctors are opposed to her appointment, and have written a letter of protest to the Local Government Board.

A woman, reports *The Evening Standard*, has recently been appointed barber to one of the large military hospitals, and is doing her work to the satisfaction of everyone concerned. Since the war, women have been steadily replacing the Germans and Austrians who have hitherto been so largely employed as ladies' hairdressers. "The extent," says *The Evening Standard*, "to which the hairdressing trade, both in its higher and lower branches, was controlled by Germans, is scarcely to be believed." Let us hope that after the war women will remain in the positions they have won in this trade, and that the male ladies' hairdresser will be entirely a thing of the past.

## What Some of our Societies are Doing.

### Oxon, Berks, and Bucks Federation.

ASCOT.—A very successful rummage sale was held at Ascot on May 3rd, promoted by the Committee of the local Suffrage Society, in support of their working parties employed on behalf of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, the Russian Units, and the Ascot War Supply Depôt. So great is the zeal of the workers that without considerable money help they cannot be kept fully employed. The buyers were all members and friends of the local Society, and the attractive goods, at fair prices, were soon disposed of, and a handsome sum realised for the good object.

The annual meeting of the ASCOT Women's Suffrage Society was held on May 31st, Mrs. Robie Uniacke in the chair. On the conclusion of business, Mrs. Uniacke spoke to the members on the Registration Bill. She also urged upon members the duty of keeping themselves fully organised and fully equipped as a Society, even amidst the distractions of their public work. Miss Broadbent was elected to the Executive Committee, and Mrs. Tayleur, who had resigned on leaving Ascot, has returned and is re-elected. In addition to supporting their local Society, the members have, during the past year, raised the sum of £171 7s. 6d. for their "Emergency War Fund," the whole of this sum being spent on war charities, and the general public having helped generously towards it. The working parties of the Society have turned out 1,456 useful garments (or sand bags) during the year, of which a good proportion were given to the Ascot Military Hospital and the Ascot War Supply Depôt, while sandbags were destined for Mesopotamia. The Committee put on record their deep sense of the unselfish and devoted labours of the members of the working parties.

OXFORD.—Dr. Alice Hutchison addressed a crowded meeting at Oriel College, Oxford, on May 10th, in support of the Scottish Women's Hospitals. Ten minutes before the hour the hall was overcrowded and people were turning away, so chairs and benches were hurriedly brought into the Quad, which is sheltered and sunny, and a highly successful open-air meeting was held. Dr. Scott Holland, who took the chair, pointed out that not only nursing, but doctoring exactly suits the practical idealism of a woman's mind, and belongs to her patience and courage. The ideal of medicine is the concentration on what can be done to relieve suffering. Admiration of this attitude of mind and hands does not alter the scathing judgment we pass on war. When peace comes, women will still be quite as ready for service as among the weltering horrors of war. Dr. Hutchison described her five months' campaign in Calais against typhoid, her subsequent journey to Serbia, the interruption of that journey at Malta to nurse the wounded from the Dardanelles, the work at Valjevo, the retreat of the Serbians, and the experiences of the members of the Unit as prisoners of war. The speaker gave vivid descriptions of Serbs, Austrians, and Germans, and spoke eloquently of the value one who has been a prisoner of war attaches to British liberty of speech and action. The Oxford papers gave very good reports of the meeting, and a collection of £46 1s. was made.

MID-BUCKS.—The Little Kingshill Branch of the Mid-Bucks Society recently held a "shower tea" to get material for a working party for the Scottish Women's Hospitals. Between £3 and £4 worth of materials were contributed, and £2 2s. 6d. in money. Parties are continuing to work at Little Kingshill and Little Missenden.

READING.—A small, but highly successful jumble sale, in aid of the Day Nursery, was held in the Nursery Garden on May 27th. Only sensible garments were sold, as the object is partly educative, and £5 7s. 5d. was realised.

### Doncaster Branch N.U.W.S.S.

The annual meeting was held on Thursday, June 8th. Several members of the Committee were unavoidably absent, among whom was Miss Hutchinson, formerly Hon. Secretary of the Branch, who is now acting as Sanitary Officer to the National Union's Russian Unit in Petrograd. A most interesting account of her work, chiefly consisting of extracts from her letters, was given by Miss L. A. Hutchinson.

In the inspiring address which followed, Miss Geraldine Cooke dealt with the work of the Units in other parts of Russia, and gave a most enlightening explanation of the present political situation in its bearing on Women's Suffrage, and pressed the great importance of the work of the Women's Interests Committee. A discussion on the possibility and need for such work in Doncaster closed the meeting.

## Forthcoming Meetings.

*JUNE 26.*

**Birmingham**—Far Croft, Handsworth—Subject, "Motherhood"—Miss Sturge 7.30

*JUNE 27.*

**Birmingham**—Miss Batsin's Class, New Inns—Mrs. Ring 8.15

**Erdington** Women's Co-operative Guild—Subject, "Motherhood"—Dr. Huffton 8.0

**Esher and East Moseley**—Annual Meeting and White Elephant Sale at Littleworth, Esher, for the benefit of the Serbian Relief Fund and the Scottish Women's Hospitals in Serbia—Speaker, Hon. Mr. Haverfield 3.30

*JUNE 28.*

**Bristol**—Drawing-room Meeting at 5, Berkeley Square, by kind invitation of Canon and Mrs. Talbot—Speaker, Miss Alice Gardner, Tate Lecturer and Fellow of Newnham College, Cambridge 3.30

**Cheltenham**—Garden Meeting at Hill House, Leckhampton Hill—Speaker, Miss Helen Fraser 3.15

*JUNE 29.*

**Birmingham**—Joint Annual Meetings of the Birmingham Society and Central Counties Federation at Queen's College—Chair: C.C.F., Mrs. Kempthorne; B.W.S.S., Mrs. Osler—Speaker, Miss I. O. Ford 4.30

**Norwood**—Drawing-room Meeting, at 18, Court Road, West Norwood—Hostess, Mrs. Chapman—Speaker, Miss Walford 4.30

*JUNE 30.*

**Bradford**—Preliminary Meeting—Annual Meeting at Patriotic Club (Girls')—Speaker, Miss Geraldine Cooke—Entertainment, 8.30—Refreshments—Collection 6.45

**Eastbourne**—"At Home," at Raven's Croft School, St. John's Road (by kind permission of the Principals, the Misses Mullins)—Speaker, Mrs. Fawcett, LL.D., on "The Status of Women after the War"—After Tea, Musical Programme—Members of N.U.W.S.S. invited 3.0

**Guildford and District**—Paddock Gardens, Quarry Street—Address by Dr. Elsie Inglis on Serbia and her experiences there—Collection for N.U.W.S.S. Hospitals—S. L. H. Drew, Hon. Secretary 3.0

*JULY 1.*

**Ascot**—Serbian Flag Day—Sale of flags, and shop opened in the High Street for Sale of Serbian literature and sweetmeats.

**Carnforth**—Station Hotel—Speaker, Miss Geraldine Cooke 2.45

### Working Parties.

**Ascot N.U.**—Working Party for Members Every Tuesday, 2.30—6.0

**Ascot Society**—Working Party for Members, at Sunninghall Every Thursday, 2.30—6.0

**Bolton**—Suffrage Shop, Bradshawgate—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Monday, 2.30; and every Thursday at 8.0

**Bournemouth**—At 167, Old Christchurch Road—for the Polish Refugees Maternity Unit Every Monday, 3.0—6.0

**Bridlington**—Sewing Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Wednesday, 3.0—6.0

**Bristol**—Working Party, at 40, Park Street—June 21st 3.0—5.0

**Chiswick and Bedford Park**—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Thursday, 3.0—6.0

**Farnham**—At Bourne Lodge—Working Party for the Russian Maternity Unit On Thursday, at 2.45—4.15

**Hastings**—At the Suffrage Club—A Working Party for Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Tuesday, 2.30—6.0

**Huddersfield**—Sewing Meetings will be held at the Office, 41, Spring Street Every Tuesday, 2.30

**Leamington**—Every Tuesday, at 35, Warwick Street, to make sandbags; and every Wednesday, to make hospital garments 2.30

**Lowestoft**—For the Polish Refugees Maternity Unit—Every Monday alternately—Miss Coates, 61, London Road—North, Mrs. Drummond, 32, Kirkley Park Road 2.30

**Scarborough**—6, Falconer Chambers—Working Party Every Monday, 2.45

**Shipley and Baildon**—Ladies' Parlour of Saltaire Congregational Church School—Sewing Meeting Every Thursday, 2.30

**Southampton**—Working Party for the Russian Maternity Unit, at Hazelhurst, Hulse Road—Hostess, Mrs. Farquharson Every Wednesday, 3.0—6.30

**South Kensington**—56, Iverna Court, W.—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Tuesday and Friday, 2.0—4.30

**Wakefield**—St. John's Institute—Sewing Party Every Wednesday, 2.30—6.0

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

An entertainment, organised by the Woman's Theatre (Actresses' Franchise League), will be given on Tuesday afternoon, the 27th inst., at Sunderland House, in aid of the Patriotic Thrift Campaign of the National Food Reform Association. Among those taking part are Lady Tree, the Misses Nina Boucicault, Jean Cadell, Sydney Fairbrother, Sibil Goodchild, Joan Green, Christine Hawkes, Elaine Innescourt, Edyth Olive, Alice Petty, Janet Speer, Lottie Venne, May Whitty, Mlle. Scaltiel, Messrs. Robert Ganthony, Ben Webster, and Fred Wright. The programme will include "A War Committee," the amusing skit on women's committees by Edward Knoblaugh, produced with such success at the Haymarket last summer, and "The Meeting," by Robert Ganthony, in which Miss Elaine Innescourt and the author will take part. Other items are dances by Miss Joan Green (who has appeared by desire at Marlborough House), and "Original Tales of Scottish Humour," by Miss Alice Petty. Full particulars may be had from 178, St. Stephen's House, Westminster.

A performance of "King Henry V." will be given by Miss Slades's Company on Friday, June 30th, at 2 p.m., at the Queen's Theatre, in aid of the British Women's Patriotic League Star and Garter Fund. Tickets from the Secretary, B.W.P.L., 92, Victoria Street, from Miss O. Slade, 49, Stanhope Gardens, S.W., and at the Theatre.

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| 40 | 2 3 | 6 9 | 12 0 |

*All advertisements should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., 14, Great Smith-st., Westminster, and must be received not later than first post Wednesday.*

### BIRTH.

DOWSON.—On June 14th, at the Manor House, Radcliffe-on-Trent, to Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Dowson, a daughter.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS.

**BRITISH DOMINIONS WOMAN SUFFRAGE UNION.**

*Conference, July 5th, 6th & 7th, Central Hall, Westminster.*

SUBJECTS—

**Women as Citizens in the Dominions Overseas.**
**Sex Morality and Sex Education.**
**Women and Children in the Industrial World. India.**

Particulars from the Hon. Sec., B.D.W.S.U., c/o International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton-st, Piccadilly.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, 9, Grafton-st., Piccadilly, W.—June 28th, 8 p.m., "Ten months in Serbia with the Scottish Women's Hospital Unit." The Hon. Evelina Haverfield. Chairman, Mr. Cecil Chapman, J.P.

[Continued on page 148

*Continued from page 147.*]

MEMORIAL HALL, MANCHESTER.—Wednesday, June 28th, at 7.30 p.m. Recital of Works for One and Two Pianofortes, by Hope Squire and Frank Merrick. Tickets, 5s. (reserved), 2s. 6d., and 1s., from Messrs. Forsyth Bros., Ltd., 126, Deansgate, and at the door.

THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE will hold a meeting at the New Constitutional Hall, 8, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge, S.W., Tuesday, June 27th, 3 p.m. "National Service and Freedom." Rev. F. M. Green. Hostess, Mrs. Cecil Chapman.

**SUNDERLAND HOUSE.**
**National Food Reform Association Entertainment.**
***Tuesday, June 27th, 3.30.***

PROGRAMME:—"A War Committee," the amusing play about women's committees; monologue by Miss Lottie Venne; Scottish Stories, Singing, Dancing.

## THE LAND.

GARDENING.—Taynton House, Taynton, Gloucester. Miss Atherton, assisted by Miss Marion Stewart, is willing to receive limited number of students.

## NURSERY TRAINING.

CHURCH SCHOOL FOR HOUSECRAFT & NURSERY TRAINING.—Students received; course of four months, £16 16s.; babies in residence.—Apply Lady Supt., 36, St. George's-square, Primrose-hill.

## MOTORING.

**WARWICK SCHOOL OF MOTORING**
**259, WARWICK ROAD, KENSINGTON.**
*Telephone* . . 946 WESTERN.
**fficially appointed and recommended by the Royal Automobile Club.**
**Individual Tuition given to Each Pupil.**
Call and inspect our mechanical class rooms, which are fully equipped for practical training. Driving and mechanism is thoroughly taught by a competent staff.

## EDUCATIONAL & PROFESSIONAL.

"MORE MONEY TO SPEND" (Income Tax Recovery and Adjustment).—Send postcard for this booklet to Mrs. Ayres Purdie, Women Taxpayers' Agency, Hampden House, 3, Kingsway. 'Phone, Central 6049.

## DENTISTRY.

**ISLINGTON DENTAL SURGERY, 69, Upper Street, N.**

**MR. CHODWICK BROWN, Surgeon Dentist,**
**Mr. FREDK. G. BOUCHER, Asst. Dental Surgeon. Estd. 35 Yrs.**
Gas Administered Daily by Qualified Medical Man.
Nurse in Attendance. Mechanical Work in all its Branches.
Send Post Card for Pamphlet. N.B.—No show case at door.
CONSULTATION FREE. Telephone: North 3795.

## TYPEWRITING AND PRINTING.

**MARY McLACHLAN, Typist, 4, Chapel Walk, Manchester.**

**TEMPLAR PRINTING WORKS, BIRMINGHAM.—R. Crombleholme, General Manager. Enquiries solicited.**

## DRESSMAKING, MILLINERY, &c.

HATS RE-BLOCKED and any alterations or trim; own materials used.—Miss Hughes, 7, Lower Porchester-street, Marble Arch.

LACE cleaned, mended, transferred. Many testimonials.—Beatrice, "C.C." Office. (No postcards.)

TAILOR-MADE COSTUMES.—Latest styles to measure; best workmanship and smart cut guaranteed; prices moderate.—H. Nelissen, 14, Great Titchfield-st., Oxford-circus, W.; patterns sent on application.

## LAUNDRY.

**BUSH HILL PARK STEAM LAUNDRY, 19-20, Second-avenue, Enfield. Proprietor, Miss M. B. Lattimer. Best family work, under personal supervision of trained experts. Open-air drying. Hand-done shirts and collars. Specialities: flannels, silks, fine linen, laces, &c. Prompt attention to parcels sent by post.**

## PROVISIONS, EGGS, etc.

DEVONSHIRE CREAM.—2s. per lb., post free.—Miss Hilda Paynter, Hocklake Farm, Berealston.

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## FOR SALE AND WANTED.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH (OLD) BOUGHT.—MESSRS. BROWNING, Dental Manufacturers, 63, Oxford-st., London, THE ORIGINAL FIRM who do not advertise misleading prices. Full value by return or offer made. Call or post. Est. 100 years.

**"COMMON CAUSE" Fountain Pens, price 5s. 6d. each. Non-leakable, can be carried in any position. Solid 14-carat gold nib. Apply, sending P.O. for 5s. 8d. (2d. being for postage), to the Manager, "Common Cause," 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.**

ELECTROLYSIS (for removal of superfluous hair, moles, &c.), face massage, and electrical hair treatment. Lessons given and certificate granted.—Address, Miss Thearlston, 54, Devonshire-street, Portland-place, W. Hours, 11 to 5.

GOLD, SILVER, AND BRASS can be cleaned in half the ordinary time by the Ayah Polishing Cloth. This cloth is used by jewellers in restoring lustre to the finest jewellery. No soiling of hands. 1s. 3d. post free from The Pioneer Manufacturing Co., 21, Paternoster-sq., London, E.C.

LADY (L.S.W.S. Member), not desiring to purchase in war-time, would like to give house room to the Piano of any reader who may be warehousing her furniture. Advertiser has taken charge of friend's piano for some years, but now, owing to removal, is without an instrument. Greatest care taken. No children. References given.—Write, Manager, COMMON CAUSE Office.

MADAME HELENE, 5, Hanover-rd., Scarborough, gives generous prices for ladies' and gentlemen's worn suits, dresses, boots, furs, lingerie, and children's garments; separate price for each article; carriage paid; cash by return, or parcel promptly returned if offer not accepted.

MAKE YOUR BLOUSES of Genuine Irish Linen Fabric—"FLAXZELLA"—with new silky finish; 12½d. to 2s. 4½d. yard. 200 patterns, with this month's Bargain List, free!—HUTTON'S, 159, Larne, Ireland.

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING wanted to buy for cash; costumes, skirts, boots, underclothes, curtains, lounge suits, trousers, and children's clothing of every description; parcels sent will be valued, and cash sent by return.—Mrs. Russell, 100, Raby-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

## TO LET.

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OLD-WORLD House in Chelsea to Let; July, August, and September; bath; small garden; five rooms, kitchen, &c.; very moderate terms View by appointment.—1, Justice-walk, Chelsea.

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TO LET, furnished for summer months, country cottage in Brecon; 2 sitting-rooms, 5 bedrooms, bath, &c., kitchen; good fishing in neighbourhood; golf.—Apply, Miss Garlick, Brecon, S. Wales.

**TO LET (Unfurnished).—Eight-roomed house, conveniently situated close to Westbourne-grove and Kensington-gardens; very suitable for dividing into flats; rent moderate; short lease, or for sale; bargain.—Write, M. G., c/o Fuller's Advertising Agency, 99, New Bond-st., W.**

UNFURNISHED.—Three large rooms and fitted pantry; gas, electric light, use bath; suit two or three ladies sharing, or would divide. Lady's quiet house, five minutes north Cavendish-sq.; permanent tenants desired; part service possible.—Box 5,875, COMMON CAUSE Office.

WEST DULWICH.—Gentlewoman offers furnished suite in self-contained upper part—sitting-room, bedroom, and kitchen; use of bathroom, garden, cycle house. No. 20 'bus route, convenient for Westminster; rent very moderate.—Box 5,915, COMMON CAUSE Office.

### WANTED.

LADY requires Small Unfurnished Flat; self-contained preferred; quiet essential; good neighbourhood; London.—Box 5,919, COMMON CAUSE Office.

## FOR HOLIDAYS.

A LADY having charming modern cottage (bath, &c.), with large garden and orchard in rural district of Sussex, would like paying guests; suit anybody requiring quiet restful holidays amid home-like surroundings; simple meals, excellent cooking; inclusive terms, 25s. per week, or less if two sharing bedroom.—Write Box 5,912, COMMON CAUSE Offices.

ARTIST'S wife (husband away) would like a lady, artistic or literary preferred, as paying guest; quiet, pretty country, South coast.—Box 5,887, COMMON CAUSE Office.

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**MEMBER recommends comfortable rooms, one sitting-room, two double bedrooms, good cooking; beautiful part of Gloucestershire.—Mrs. Gardiner, Golly-yf-y-harryd, Oakridge Lynch, nr. Stroud, Gloucestershire.**

**ST. LEONARDS.—Lady highly recommends restful home for tired workers; very moderate terms.—Wainwright, 18, Kenilworth-rd., St. Leonards.**

**TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—Holiday home; guinea weekly.—42, St. John's-rd.**

**WENSLEYDALE.—Paying Guests received; restful surroundings.—Miss Smith, Low Green House, Thoralby, Aysgarth S.O.**

## WHERE TO LIVE.

BOARD Residence for Students and Workers; quiet, but accessible to all parts; tennis; very highly recommended.—34, Barrowgate-rd., Chiswick.

BAYSWATER (near Park and 'buses).—Ladies received in private family; home comforts; bed and breakfast from 2s. 6d.; meals optional.—"M.," Box 5,897, COMMON CAUSE Office.

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**CAMBERLEY (Residential Private Hotel), 4 and 9, Knaresborough-place, Cromwell-rd., S.W.; room and breakfast from 3s. 6d.—Proprietress, Miss K. Watts. Telephone, 64 Western.**

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**HOSTEL FOR LADY WORKERS, Students, and others; central and convenient for all parts; terms moderate.—Miss Sullivan, 59, Albany-st., Regent's-pk. (Portland-rd. Station, W.)**

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**WOMEN WAR WORKERS.—Westminster, furnished rooms; 'phone, Victoria 3,040.—Box 5,913, COMMON CAUSE Office.**

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